California Environmental Protection Agency



In-Station Diagnostic Systems

Electronic Access: Availability of an RS 232 Port

Number 412 December 17, 2009

This advisory supersedes Vapor Recovery Advisory Number 355 by clarifying that the electronic access requirement in section 9.8 of the Certification Procedure 201 (CP-201), Certification Procedure for Vapor Recovery Systems at Gasoline Dispensing Facilities. Must be vacant and active and does not interrupt third party monitoring.

Section 9.8 of CP-201 reads as follows:

9.8 Electronic Access

The monthly and daily reports shall be made available on demand through an RS 232 serial port on a standardized data link connector. All ISD reports shall be electronically accessible with standardized software.

The requirement to make "data available on demand through an RS 232 serial port" dictates that a vacant and active RS 232 serial port must always be available to electronically download reports. An RS 232 port that has a cable or device connected to it that is being used for third party remote monitoring does not meet this requirement, if there is only one RS 232 port on the In-Station Diagnostic (ISD) console. Certified ISD technicians and District staff should not disconnect an existing communication cable from an RS 232 port that would interrupt third party monitoring in order to access ISD reports. RS 232 cables or devices that relocate the open RS 232 port from the ISD console to a more accessible location are allowed, provided the port remains vacant and active and does not interrupt third party monitoring. RS 232 port must be both vacant and active, otherwise the Electronic Access requirements of section 9.8 of CP-201 are not being met. Staff advises the owner of the Gasoline Dispensing Facility to add an additional RS 232 port that remains vacant and active for Certified ISD technicians and District staff to access daily and monthly reports.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Information on the Vapor Recovery program is available at the Air Resources Board vapor recovery web site at http://www.arb.ca.gov/vapor/vapor.htm, or by contacting Vince Bunac at (916) 327-7420 or via email at vbunac@arb.ca.gov.

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our website: http://www.arb.ca.gov.

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